

JOHS Band Info
2023-2024 School Year

School Day Ensembles (and Descriptions)

Concert Band (Course Code: Marching Band/Concert Band) – this is the 3rd band, and is composed of students in grades 9-12 that are recently new to band and haven't been playing their instrument for a very long time. *Note: this is NOT a marching band class. The course code just has to be like that for students to get PE credit who are actually in marching band.*

Symphonic Band (Course Code: Marching Band/Concert Band) – this is the 2nd band, and is composed of students in grades 9-12 that are at an intermediate playing level. *Note: this is NOT a marching band class. The course code just has to be like that for students to get PE credit who are actually in marching band.*

Wind Ensemble (Course Code: Wind Ensemble) – this is the advanced band, and is composed of students in grades 10-12 (some 9th grade exceptions) that are advanced on their instruments. *This ensemble is audition only. Auditions take place in April.*

Percussion Ensemble (Course Code: Instrument Tech) – this is a percussion only class, and is composed of students in grades 9-12 that played percussion in middle school. *All middle school percussionists will be placed in this class and not a band class.*

Orchestra (Course Code: Orchestra) – this is a strings only ensemble, and is composed of students in grades 9-12 that played a string instrument in middle school. String instruments include violin, viola, cello, and bass.

How placement works:

All band students will play for the Overton Band Directors sometime in the spring semester (typically April). The directors will select which band class the students should be placed and communicate that to the school counselors. All percussionists will be placed in the percussion ensemble class and at the beginning of the year be assigned the band they will play with for concerts. All strings will be placed in orchestra.

Extracurriculars

Marching Band – this is an after-school ensemble in which anyone is welcome to participate. The first event for marching band is kick-off camp in May of each year.

Jazz Band – this is an after-school ensemble that takes place every Wednesday. Instruments such as drum set, bass guitar, electric guitar, and piano are part of this ensemble in addition to the typical band instruments.

Hypeline (spring semester only) – this is an after-school ensemble that takes place in the spring semester. This group performs at basketball games as a “spirit drumline.” Any student with a musical background is welcome to be on the hypeline even if percussion is not their primary instrument..

What do I, as a middle school student or parent, need to do?

- If you play a band instrument, sign up for band.
- If you play a string instrument, sign up for orchestra.
- If you are a percussionist, sign up for band and we will submit your name to the counselors to be placed in the percussion only class.

At the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, check your schedule and make sure you’re in the appropriate class. Sometimes schedules get messed up and a percussionist gets placed in a band class or you don’t have band scheduled at all! When that happens, contact a band director and/or a counselor and let them know so they can help you.